

ABSTRACT

An apparatus and a method useful for crystallization of a biopolymer such as protein are provided. A crystal growth apparatus (10) has a solid surface (11a) consisting of a silicon oxide and a solid surface (12a) consisting of alumina. In this apparatus (10), the solid surface (11a) and the solid surface (12a) are arranged to simultaneously come into contact with a solution (14) containing protein (13) to be crystallized. The solid surface (11a) and the solid surface (12a) have surface potentials or zeta potentials different from each other when coming into contact with the solution (14). For example, the solid surface (11a) is negatively charged, and the solid surface (12a) is positively charged. Therefore, the protein (13) negatively charged in the solution (14) is selectively adsorbed to the positively charged solid surface (12a). Thus, a crystal of the protein (13) grows on the solid surface (12a).